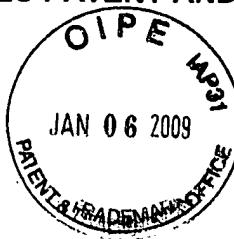


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group art unit: 3656
Examiner: Justin Mitchell Krause

In Re PATENT APPLICATION of:



Applicant(s): Kouji KITAHATA et al.

Serial No.: 10/593,820

Filing date: September 22, 2006

For: LUBRICANT COMPOSITION, SPEED REDUCTION GEAR USING THE LUBRICANT COMPOSITION, AND ELECTRIC POWER STEERING APPARATUS USING THE SPEED REDUCTION GEAR

Atty. ref.: AI 431NP

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND CERTIFICATION

January 6, 2009

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Siri:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted in compliance with the timing requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), i.e. prior to a first Office Action on the merits.

Attached is a copy of a WIPO patent document, which was first cited in the attached European Search Report, dated November 24, 2008, which was issued in connection with the European patent application No. 05721637.6. Also attached is an English-language abstract of the document from which any relevance of the document can be gleaned. The document is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Also listed for consideration on the Form PTO-1449 is a U.S. patent, which was also cited in the European Search Report. Any relevance of this U.S. patent is self-evident.

It is hereby certified that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before a first Office Action on the merits, no fee is required, and the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 are deemed to be fully met as to all listed documents. Consideration of the listed documents is respectfully requested.

Should any fee be required, however, the Director is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002, and is requested to advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

January 6, 2009

Date

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RHB/vm